

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 01560 110723Z

11

ACTION EUR-12

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P 101532Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO VIRGINIA YORIO FOR J.S. WALKER, USYEC
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY
570 LEXINGTON AVE.,
NEW YORK, NY 10022
TELEX: RCA 234 698
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5866

UNCLAS BELGRADE 1560

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP

SUBJ: ANNUAL US/YUGOSLAV JOINT MEETING - ADVANCE WORK

1. IN MEETING TODAY, MARCH 10, DELEVIC SAID THAT TO HIS DEEP REGRET HIS CAREFUL ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR TRIP ARE UNAVOIDABLY FALLING APART. HE ASKED US TO SUGGEST THAT YOU AND ROSE POSTPONE YOUR VISIT UNTIL APRIL AND SAID HE WOULD BE SENDING A MESSAGE IN SIMILAR VEIN TO PECI-POPOVIC.

2. REASON STEMS FROM RECENT YUGOSLAV DECISION TO INTENSIFY EXPORT PROMOTION EFFORT. ALL FEDERAL CHAMBER OF ECONOMY REPRESENTATIVES BEING RECALLED FROM ABROAD FOR WEEKS OF MAR 22 AND 29. JUST-COMPLETED SCHEDULE SHOWS THAT DURING FIRST WEEK THERE WILL BE INTENSIVE MEETINGS HELD IN BELGRADE OF FEDERAL AND REPUBLICAN CHAMBER OFFICIALS AND ENTERPRISE EXECUTIVES. FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES WILL FAN OUT TO REPUBLICS DURING SECOND WEEK. DURING BOTH WEEKS, DELEVIC EXPLAINED, IT WILL BE VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO DO BUSINESS WITH OFFICIALS AT ANY LEVEL IN FEDERAL AND REPUBLICAN CHAMBERS, AND MANY BUSINESS EXECUTIVES WILL ALSO BE ENGAGED.

3. CHAMBER OFFICIALS WOULD BE PREPARED TO RECEIVE YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER APR 4, BUT THEY ASSUME THAT YOUR APR 8 MEETING WILL PREVENT YOU AND ROSE FROM ARRIVING UNTIL WEEK OF APR 11.

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4. WE CONCUR WITH DELEVIC'S ASSESSMENT THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE

FOR YOU TO DO ANY BUSINESS OF SUBSTANCE HERE WEEKS OF MAR 22
AND 29. WE THINK IT WOULD BE FUTILE TO COME HERE THEN EVEN TO
MAKE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR BLED MEETING SINCE PLANNING
WILL REQUIRE CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH DELEVIC WHO, HIMSELF,
WILL BE UNAVAILABLE. WE THINK THAT DELEVIC UNDERSTANDS NEED FOR
CAREFUL ADVANCE WORK AND LIKE OURSELVES IS DISAPPOINTED THAT HE
MUST SUGGEST POSTPONING YOUR VISIT. WE HOPE YOU CAN RESCHEDULE
FOR EARLY APRIL.

5. I AM SENDING BY AIRMAIL THE SCHEDULE ORIGINALLY INTENDED FOR
YOU AND ROSE. DELEVIC PROBABLY WOULD WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS ON IT
SINCE HE PLANS TO MAKE DUPLICATE ARRANGEMENTS WHEN DATES OF YOUR
TRIP FIRM. BEST REGARDS,
WILLIAM J. WALLER, COMMERCIAL ATTACHE'
AMERICAN EMBASSY
BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA

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